

1st Sunday of Lent

February 14, 2016



Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"We need to be especially alert to the evil subtlety of Satan. His one desire is to keep people from having a mind and heart disposed to their Lord and God. . . He wants to extinguish the light of the human heart, and so he moves in by means of worldly busyness and worry."

-St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

This weekend's quote comes from perhaps one of the most familiar saints to modern Catholics- St. Francis of Assisi. While he is often known and represented as the "nature" saint, depicted with birds on his shoulder and animals at his feet, his impact on the Church is much greater than that. He is also a tremendous source of wisdom and knowledge when it comes to the power of the cross and Jesus' suffering and death, as well as the reality of spiritual battle and our duty, with God's help, to fight valiantly.

As we know, this First Sunday of Lent focuses on Jesus' temptation by Satan in the desert. Satan tries in three different ways to get Jesus to give in to temptation and to commit sin. As we hear, Jesus responds calmly to all three, returning the devil's temptations with the truth of God found in Sacred Scripture. It is a remarkable and vivid scene in the Gospels, a visible and true confrontation between God and the leader of the forces of evil. And, of course, Truth triumphs. Jesus places His total trust in God His Father and resists the temptations of the evil one, giving us an example of the obedience that God requires of His children.

My friends, make no mistake, Satan, demons, evil spirits, are real. And they really do interact in our world. Their goal is to turn as many souls away from God as possible, and to drag them to destruction in Hell with them. There really is a true spiritual battle taking place between the forces of holiness and goodness and the forces of evil right now for your soul, and for every soul that exists on this planet. If we choose not to believe that, then we are in fact doing exactly what Satan would want, because he is able to do his most destructive work in tempting us when he is disbelieved or when we are unaware of his presence. Like an attacking army, he is most effective when undetected. Satan's tactics to distract us from God, to tempt us, and to lead us away from Him are often shrewd and cunning. And quite honestly, we should expect that if we are planning to really enter deeply and totally into this Lenten Season, Satan will try to thwart our plans. He will try to tempt us to give up on our resolutions, on our plans to go deeper in our faith.

The beautiful thing is that in Christ, the victory over Satan and the forces of evil is already won. Jesus has soundly, perfectly and eternally defeated him through His death and resurrection. Therefore, we have no reason to be afraid of evil, because God who dwells in us is infinitely more powerful than the forces of evil. But we should ask God to help us to grow in wisdom, to recognize temptations to sin for what they are- attempts by the evil one to draw our focus away from God. But, remember, through Christ we are victorious, and so we have nothing to fear! God bless you!

Fr. Steve

Women's Conference: Deadline of February 15th is fast approaching for the 4th Annual Catholic Women's Conference: Women of Faith "Everyday Faith with Timeless Saints" on Saturday, February 27, at the Marshall School in Duluth. This conference features Colleen Carroll Campbell a national speaker, presidential speech writer and author. After Feb 15th you may register but the conference price, lunch and materials are not guaranteed. Register at: www.dioceseduluth.org or call Grace at 218-724-9111.

Just a reminder: Fr. Steve is encouraging each of us to sign up for daily emails from dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever during lent.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

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Fr. Steve's E-Mail slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org **Deacon Tim Egan** 349-9175

Saturday	WEEKDAY DURING LENT	02/13/16
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: To be assigned Chalices: Beth Egan & Liz Scheidt Servers: Kate & Miles Thomasen	
Sunday	1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	02/14/16
9:30 a.m.	Religious Education — Grades Pre, K thru 4	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Gary Aleff</i> Reader: Religious Ed. Student Chalices: Joanne Button & Nancy Olsen Servers: Casey & Kaitlyn Underdale	
Monday	WEEKDAY DURING LENT	02/15/16
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Al & Mary Lupa</i>	
Tuesday	WEEKDAY DURING LENT	02/16/16
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Bill Merhar</i>	
9:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	
5:00 p.m.	Reconciliation	
Wednesday	THE SEVEN FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORER	02/17/16
5:45 p.m.	Choir Practice	
6:45 p.m.	Religious Education — Grades 5-11	
Thursday	WEEKDAY DURING LENT	02/18/16
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Mary Hagen</i>	
8:45 a.m.	Adoration	
6:30 p.m.	Men's Prayer Group	
Friday	WEEKDAY DURING LENT	02/19/16
7:30 a.m.	Reconciliation	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Steve Cavallin</i>	
9:00 a.m.	Friday Morning Discussion Group	
7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday	WEEKDAY DURING LENT	02/20/16
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Barb Haynes Chalices: Shawn & Kathy McMahon Servers: To be assigned	
Sunday	2ND SUNDAY OF LENT	02/21/16
9:30 a.m.	Religious Education — Grades Pre, K thru 4	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Gary Aleff</i> Reader: Shannah Groothausen Chalices: Jeannie Shaw & Laura Lien Servers: Ethan Bopp & Luke Johnson	

ROSARY : Our Blessed Mother Mary is pleading with all of us to pray the Rosary – a very powerful prayer. Besides praying the Rosary prior to weekday Masses, we have now begun praying the Rosary at 4:00 PM before the 4:30 PM Saturday evening Mass and at 10:30 AM before the 11:00 AM Sunday morning Mass. Please join us in praying the Rosary. If you are interested in leading the Rosary prior to one of the weekend Masses, please call Linda at 834-3568.

† **PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for Arthur Barthman, Joe Haynes, Yvonne Highland, Ron Kor and Ron Ostendorf, Joanne Payment.



† **FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Please pray for Al Aldinger, Patty Amitrano, Bill Carlson, Kathleen Despiegler, Lori Dybvig, Richard Hadrich, Patty Harrison-Isakson, Delores Isensee, Peggy Jurkanis and Diane Watson .

† **MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Please pray for Garrett Aho, Julie Banks, Nate Berger, Keith Dahl, Jacob Kearin , James Mickle, Ryan Ray, Christopher Uremovich, and Maddison Zavoral.

† **Sacred Heart Candle:** The Barthman Family.

Youth Happenings

Check out our Youth Bulletin Board
"Like" us on Facebook: Holy Spirit Youth Group

Confirmation Retreat: Time is running out , the deadline to register is March 1st. This is a requirement for confirmation and is for 11 grade students. The retreat will be in Hibbing , April 8-9, 2016). If you misplaced your registration form, please contact Treasaigh in the parish office 834-4659.

Jr. High Retreat "In Reverse", April 15-17: This is a great retreat to encourage your child to attend! It will focus on going deeper in prayer. There are also many activities including games, swimming, talks, Mass and reconciliation, etc... Held at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, registration is \$155. 00 and is open to students in grades 6-8. Scholarships are available. For more information, please contact Connie @ 834-4433.

Black & Indian Mission Collection: Today, our parish will take up the 131st annual National Black & Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the church in African American, Native American, Alaska Native communities from coast to coast.

Holy Spirit's Prayer Shawl Ministry Group is an informal group who crochets and knits tangible signs of their prayers for others. *New people are always welcome to join us.* We will meet on **Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 9:00 AM** in the church hall.



Prayer
Shawl
Ministry

Last Week's Contributions

Weekend Collection	\$2,858.85
UCA	\$160.00
Bldg. Fund	\$367.00
Black/Indian	\$30.00